

(orig under Copeland)

## DIRTY TRICKS—PART II

Forgive him, Mother, for Miles Copeland has undertaken to tell us what CIA is all about; why 'intelligence' and 'espionage' are different; what the term 'agent' really means, and why things may just be looking up

SOC 4.01.2 Spies

AND Counter-spies

CIA 4 Chile

CIA 2.06.8

CIA 4 INDO CHINA

CIA 2.04.1

CIA 4 LAOS

Powers, Gary

## There's a CIA in Your Future

MILES COPELAND

BESIDES THE *Encyclopedia Britannica*, a complete set of the works of Dickens, and autographed copies of *The Jeweler's Eye*, *The Four Quartets*, and *On Being a Real Person*, Mother's floor-to-ceiling bookshelves contain every known book on spies and counterspies, with the latest ones especially in evidence—from Wise and Ross's *The Invisible Government* to a book by somebody named Fletcher Prouty propounding a theory that the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Director of CIA comprise a "secret team" which runs the affairs of the country. Why such a library? "We have to read all this stuff to understand what everybody says about us," explained Mother.

Until the top people at CIA started reading what the outside world thought about spies and spying they had to face their critics in bewildered silence, not having the faintest idea what they were talking about. "Is it true," some senator once asked Frank Wisner when he was head of the CIA's covert services, "that in every American embassy you have at least one agent?" Frank thought the senator was implying that the CIA spied on the State Department. "No, senator," he said, "We only put agents in embassies of Communist countries."

## Image Problem

Then he realized that the senator was talking about regular employees, not agents, and he had to explain that he would promptly fire any of his employees who got themselves directly involved in "agent" work, i.e., spying. The senator, whose information came from popular books on spies, didn't believe him. "Okay," said Mother, "so



now when some congressman or newspaperman speaks of our employees as 'agents' we know what they mean, and we don't fight it. But it does inconvenience our image."

A "convenient" image, it appears, is all the Agency seeks. Angus Thuermer, the CIA's public relations officer, despite all his Shelley Berman chatter is a very tough hombre and is the only official in the Administration I have met who doesn't feel he has to apologize for the Agency.

He can defend the Agency's actions in Vietnam, Laos, and elsewhere in such a way as to convince almost anyone whose mind is not totally closed. But, aside from the fact that none of the newsmen he sees feels inclined to report what he says ("It's bad taste these days to go around saying nice things about the CIA," a Washington columnist told me), the Agency itself holds him back. His job is not to give the CIA a happy-making institutional image such as is sought by Coca-Cola or General Motors, but to pass on to

the general public an understanding which will silence those critics who play to the galleries, and to young people a picture of Agency work which will make them suspect that the CIA might not be such a bad place to be employed.

## Recruiting Good Guys

So long as the Agency can hold onto its best personnel and recruit high quality replacements, say its top officers, it can ride out the post-Watergate storm and then put itself through the organizational overhaul it has long needed. Recruitment, they say, is the main problem. The campus disturbances of the past few years have helped enormously ("anything those creeps are against, I'm for," a Columbia law student told a CIA recruiter after having to karate chop his way through a jeering crowd to make the interview), but the constant harping on the CIA's alleged misdemeanors by supposedly responsible adults does plant doubts in the minds of young people of the sort the Agency needs. Senator Church may not be a great statesman, but he is a senator, and when he flailed out at the CIA because its officers had actually talked to ITT executives some of the Agency's recruits awaiting security clearances dropped out before the clearances were completed.

On the face of it, the Agency's concern over ITT's problems was clear enough. A Soviet-backed candidate was about to become President of Chile, to confiscate all American assets in the

Mr. Copeland's Spies and Counter-spies will be brought out in the spring by Simon and Schuster.